

In the Claims

Kindly amend the claims to read as follows:

1. (currently amended) An escalator comprising a truss, a step-band with steps for the transportation of persons and/or objects, a balustrade on each side of the step-band held by a balustrade base, a handrail mounted on at least one of the balustrades, and a handrail-drive driving the handrail, characterized in that the handrail-drive drive includes a single axle-driven drive wheel for engaging and driving the handrail on an outside of the handrail and press-on roller means engaging the handrail on an inside of the handrail at a location substantially aligned with a location of engagement of the drive wheel and the handrail inside ~~drive means for engaging and driving the handrail on an outside of the handrail.~~

2. (cancelled)

3. (currently amended) The escalator according to claim 1 2, further characterized in that the drive-wheel has a drive-wheel tire with a peripheral surface that adapts to the form of ~~for driving the handrail by frictional engagement with the handrail outside.~~

4. (currently amended) The escalator according to claim 3 2, further characterized in that the drive-wheel tire is arranged on a wheel-rim which is connected to a driving axle.

5. (original) The escalator according to claim 3 or 4, further characterized in that the drive-wheel includes means for driving the drive wheel by one of a group consisting of a motor, a step chain-wheel, and a step chain-wheel drive.

6. (currently amended) The escalator according to claim 2; 3 or 4, further characterized in that the press-on ~~rollers are~~ roller means is arranged on a rocker, a pressing force of the press-on ~~rollers~~ roller means being adjustable by a setting of the rocker.